

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/747,957

Applicant(s)

KONO ET AL.

Examiner

Art Unit

Tung Vo

2621

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment filed 10/18/2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-2, 8, 3, 5-7, 9. (which were renumbered as 1-8, respectively).
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 - * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Sheree Rowe on November 16, 2006.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 9, after "storing the first parameter and the third parameter obtained from the first picture header and the sequence header, respectively, into a first parameter bank in a frame memory;"; insert – storing first decoded picture data obtained by decoding the first picture data into a first picture bank in the frame memory;--.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1-3 and 5-9 are allowed.
3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The cited prior art does not particularly teach an image decoding section which decodes the MPEG bit stream; a frame memory which includes

a first picture bank which stores first decoded picture data obtained by the image decoding section decoding the first picture data;

Art Unit: 2621

a first parameter bank which is associated with the first picture bank and stores the first parameter and the third parameter obtained by the image decoding section from the first picture header and the sequence header, respectively;

a second picture bank which stores second decoded picture data obtained by the image decoding section decoding the second picture data; and

a second parameter bank which is associated with the second picture bank and stores the second parameter and the third parameter obtained by the image decoding section from the second picture header and the sequence header, respectively;

a decode control section which controls the image decoding section; and

a display control section which carries out a display control of the first decoded picture data stored in the first picture bank the first parameter and the third parameter stored in the first parameter bank, and carries out a display control of the second decoded picture data stored in the second picture bank based on the second parameter and the third parameter stored in the second parameter bank in combination with others as specified in claim 1.

The cited prior art does not particularly disclose an MPEG video decoding method for an MPEG bit stream; which includes at least a sequence header, a first picture header immediately followed by first picture data, and a second picture header immediately followed by second picture data, wherein the first picture header, the second picture header, and the sequence header contain a first parameter, a second parameter, and a third parameter, respectively; the MPEG video decoding method comprising:

storing the first parameter and the third parameter obtained from the first picture header and the sequence header, respectively, into a first parameter bank in a frame memory;

Art Unit: 2621

storing first decoded picture data obtained by decoding the first picture data into a first picture bank in the frame memory;

reading the first parameter and the third parameter from the first parameter bank into a buffer;

overwriting the first parameter in the buffer with the second parameter obtained from the second picture header;

storing the second parameter and the third parameter in the buffer into a second parameter bank in the frame memory; and

storing second decoded picture data obtained by decoding the second picture data into a second picture bank in the frame memory;

wherein the first parameter bank is associated with the first picture bank, and

the second parameter bank is associated with the second picture bank.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

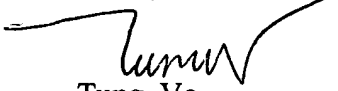
Contact Information

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tung Vo whose telephone number is 571-272-7340. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday.

Art Unit: 2621

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mehrdad Dastouri can be reached on 571-272-7418. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Tung Vo
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2621